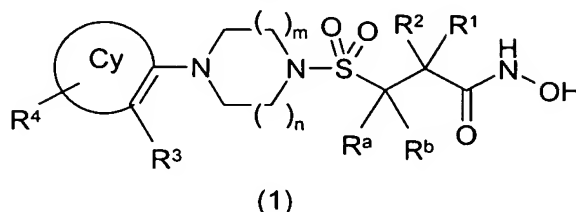


This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A compound of formula (1):



wherein:

Cy is an aryl or heteroaryl group;

m is zero or the integer 1, 2 or 3;

n is zero or the integer 1, 2 or 3; in which the sum of m and n is the integer 1, 2 or 3;

R^1 is a group selected from C_{1-6} alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, heterocycloalkyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, $-C_{1-6}$ alkylaryl, $-C_{1-6}$ alkylheteroaryl, $-C_{1-6}$ alkylheterocycloalkyl or $-C_{1-6}$ alkyl C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, in which each aryl or heteroaryl group, present as or as part of the group R^1 , may be optionally substituted with 1, 2 or 3 R^7 substituents selected from the group R^7 , wherein each R^7 may be the same or different, and is an atom or group selected from F, Cl, Br, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} haloalkoxy, CN, CO_2R^{7a} , $CON(R^{7a})_2$ or COR^{7a} ; and in which each alkyl, heterocycloalkyl or cycloalkyl group, present as or as part of the group R^1 , may be optionally substituted with 1, 2 or 3 R^8 substituents selected from the group R^8 , wherein each R^8 may be the same or different, and is an atom or group selected from F, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} haloalkoxy, =O, $=NOR^{10}$, CO_2R^{8a} , $CON(R^{8a})_2$ or COR^{8a} ;

each R^7 is, independently, F, Cl, Br, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} haloalkoxy, -CN, $-CO_2R^{7a}$, $-CON(R^{7a})_2$ or $-COR^{7a}$;

each R^{7a} , which may be the same or different, is each is, independently, a hydrogen atom, or a C_{1-6} alkyl or C_{1-6} haloalkyl group;

each R^8 is, independently F, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} haloalkoxy, =O, $=NOR^{10}$, $-CO_2R^{8a}$, $-CON(R^{8a})_2$ or $-COR^{8a}$;

each R^{8a} , which may be the same or different, is each is, independently, a hydrogen atom, or a C_{1-6} alkyl or C_{1-6} haloalkyl group;

R^{10} is a hydrogen atom or a C_{1-3} alkyl group;

R^2 is a hydrogen atom or a C_{1-3} alkyl group;

or R^1 and R^2 together with the carbon atom to which they are attached form a C_{3-6} cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl group optionally substituted with 1, 2 or 3 R^9 substituents ~~selected from the group R^9 , wherein each R^9 may be the same or different, and is an atom or group selected from F, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} haloalkoxy, $=O$, $=NOR^{10}$, $-CO_2R^{8a}$, $-CON(R^{8a})_2$ or $-COR^{8a}$;~~

each R^9 is, independently, F, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} haloalkoxy, $=O$, $=NOR^{10}$, $-CO_2R^{8a}$, $-CON(R^{8a})_2$ or $-COR^{8a}$;

R^3 is ~~an atom or group selected from F, Cl, Br, C_{1-3} alkyl, C_{1-3} haloalkyl, C_{1-3} alkoxy or C_{1-3} haloalkoxy;~~

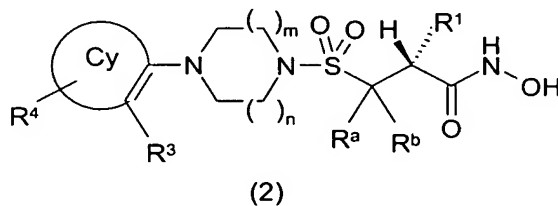
R^4 is a hydrogen, F, Cl, ~~or Br,~~ ~~atom or a~~ C_{1-3} alkyl, C_{1-3} haloalkyl, C_{1-3} alkoxy, C_{1-3} haloalkoxy, $-CN$, $-SO_2R^5$, $-SO_2N(R^6)_2$, $-CON(R^6)_2$, $-N(R^6)_2$, $-NHSO_2R^5$ or $-NHCOR^5$ ~~group;~~

R^5 is a C_{1-3} alkyl group;

each R^6 , which may be the same or different, is each is, independently, a hydrogen atom or a C_{1-3} alkyl group; and

R^a and R^b , which may be the same or different, is are each an atom or group selected from hydrogen or C_{1-3} alkyl, or R^a and R^b may be joined to together with the carbon atom to which they are attached form a C_{3-6} cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl group as defined for R^1 and R^2 optionally substituted with 1, 2, or 3 R^9 substituents;
~~and the salts, solvates, hydrates, tautomers, isomers or *N*-oxides thereof~~
or a salt, solvate, hydrate, tautomer, isomer or *N*-oxide thereof.

2. (currently amended) A compound according to Claim 1 ~~which has the~~ of formula (2):

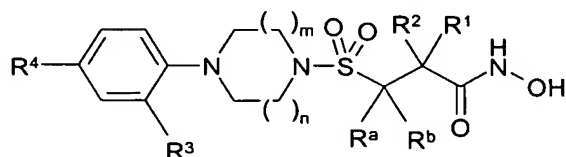


~~wherein m, n, Cy, R^a , R^b , R^1 , R^2 and R^4 are as defined in Claim 1;~~

~~and the salts, solvates, hydrates, tautomers, isomers or *N*-oxides thereof~~

or a salt, solvate, hydrate, tautomer, isomer or N-oxide thereof.

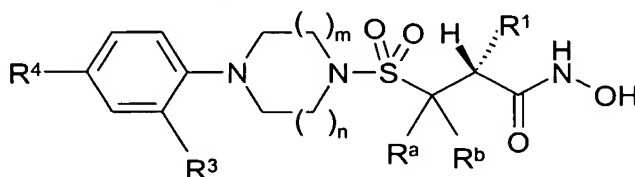
3. (currently amended) A compound according to Claim 1 ~~which has the~~ of formula (3):



(3)

~~wherein m, n, R^a , R^b , R^1 , R^2 , R^3 and R^4 are as defined in Claim 1;~~
~~and the salts, solvates, hydrates, tautomers, isomers or N oxides thereof~~
or a salt, solvate, hydrate, tautomer, isomer or N-oxide thereof.

4. (currently amended) A compound according to Claim 3 ~~which has the~~ of formula (4):



(4)

~~wherein m, n, R^a , R^b , R^1 , R^2 and R^4 are as defined in Claim 1;~~
~~and the salts, solvates, hydrates, tautomers, isomers or N oxides thereof~~
or a salt, solvate, hydrate, tautomer, isomer or N-oxide thereof.

5. (currently amended) A compound according to Claim 1 ~~or Claim 2~~ wherein Cy is a phenyl group.

6. (currently amended) A compound according to ~~any preceding Claim~~ Claim 1 wherein R^a and R^b ~~is~~ are each a hydrogen atom.

7. (currently amended) A compound according to ~~any preceding Claim~~ Claim 1 wherein m is the integer 1 and n is the integer 1.

8. (currently amended) A compound according to ~~any preceding Claim~~ Claim 1 in ~~which~~ wherein R^1 is a group selected from C_{1-6} alkyl, phenyl, heteroaryl, heterocycloalkyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, $-(CH_2)_{1-2}$ phenyl, $-(CH_2)_{1-2}$ heteroaryl, $-(CH_2)_{1-2}$ heterocycloalkyl ~~or~~ and $-(CH_2)_{1-2}C_{3-6}$ cycloalkyl, each of which is optionally substituted ~~in which each phenyl and heteroaryl group, present as or as part of the group R^+ , may optionally be substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents selected from the group R^7 , as defined in Claim 1; and in which each alkyl, heterocycloalkyl or cycloalkyl group, present as or as part of the group R^+ , may optionally be substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents selected from the group R^8 , as defined in Claim 1.~~
9. (currently amended) A compound according to ~~any preceding Claim in which~~ Claim 8 wherein R^1 is a group selected from optionally substituted C_{1-6} alkyl, phenyl, heterocycloalkyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl ~~or~~ and $-(CH_2)_{1-2}$ phenyl.
10. (currently amended) A compound according to ~~any one of Claims 1, 3 or 5 to 7 in which~~ Claim 1 wherein R^1 and R^2 together with the carbon atom to which they are attached form a an optionally substituted C_{3-6} cycloalkyl group ~~optionally substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents selected from the group R^9 , as defined in Claim 1.~~
11. (currently amended) A compound according to Claim 10 ~~in which~~ wherein R^1 and R^2 together with the carbon atom to which they are attached form a cyclobutyl group.
12. (currently amended) A compound according to ~~any preceding Claim in which~~ Claim 1 wherein R^3 is ~~an atom or group selected from~~ F, Cl, methyl, ethyl, isopropyl, $-CF_3$, $-CF_2H$, methoxy, ethoxy, $-OCF_3$ or $-OCF_2H$.
13. (currently amended) A compound according to ~~any preceding Claim in which~~ Claim 1 wherein R^4 is ~~an atom or group selected from~~ hydrogen, F, Cl, methyl, $-CF_3$, methoxy, ethoxy, $-OCF_3$ or $-OCF_2H$.
14. (currently amended) A compound ~~of any preceding Claim~~ according to Claim 12 wherein R^3 is ~~an atom or group selected from~~ F, Cl, methyl, ethyl or methoxy.

15. (currently amended) A compound according to Claim 14 wherein R³ is ~~an atom or group selected from~~ F, Cl, methyl or methoxy.

16. (original) A compound according to Claim 14 wherein R³ is a methyl group.

17. (currently amended) A compound which is:

N-hydroxy-3-methyl-2-(4-*o*-tolylpiperazine-1-sulfonylmethyl)butyramide;

N-hydroxy-3-methyl-2-[4-(2-methyl-4-fluorophenyl)piperazine-1-sulfonylmethyl]butyramide;

N-hydroxy-3-methyl-2-[4-(2,4-dimethylphenyl)piperazine-1-sulfonylmethyl]-butyramide;

N-hydroxy-3-methyl-2-[4-(2-methyl-4-trifluoromethoxyphenyl)piperazine-1-sulfonylmethyl]butyramide;

2-benzyl-*N*-hydroxy-3-(4-*o*-tolylpiperazine-1-sulfonyl)propionamide;

2-benzyl-*N*-hydroxy-3-[4-(2-methyl-4-trifluoromethoxyphenyl)piperazine-1-sulfonyl]propionamide;

N-hydroxy-2-phenyl-3-(4-*o*-tolylpiperazine-1-sulfonyl)propionamide;

N-hydroxy-2(*R*)-(tetrahydropyran-4-yl)-3-(4-*o*-tolylpiperazine-1-sulfonyl)propionamide;

N-hydroxy-3-methyl-2(*R*)-(4-*o*-tolylpiperazine-1-sulfonylmethyl)butyramide;

1-(4-*o*-tolylpiperazine-1-sulfonylmethyl)cyclobutanecarboxylic acid hydroxyamide;

~~and the salts, solvates, hydrates, tautomers, isomers or *N*-oxides thereof~~
or a salt, solvate, hydrate, tautomer, isomer or *N*-oxide thereof.

18. (currently amended) A compound which is:

N-hydroxy-3-methyl-2-[4-(2-methoxyphenyl)piperazine-1-sulfonylmethyl]-butyramide;

N-hydroxy-3-methyl-2-[4-(2-chlorophenyl)piperazine-1-sulfonylmethyl]-butyramide;

~~and the salts, solvates, hydrates, tautomers, isomers or *N*-oxides thereof~~
or a salt, solvate, hydrate, tautomer, isomer or *N*-oxide thereof.

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Preliminary Amendment - First Action Not Yet Received

PATENT

19. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 18~~ Claim 1 together with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers, excipients or diluents.